WOLF TRAP PRESS RELEASE

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High-resolution images of the artists listed are available on Wolf Trap's website: wolftrap.org/Media and Newsroom/Photos for Publication.aspx

<u>Wolf Trap Presents Lionel Richie with Special Guest</u> <u>CeeLo Green, Bizet's Carmen, Sarah McLachlan, and Darius Rucker with</u> <u>Special Guest Joel Crouse</u>

All Shows at the Filene Center at Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts, 1551 Trap Road, Vienna, Virginia 22182

Lionel Richie Special Guest: CeeLo Green All The Hits All Night Long Monday, July 21, 2014 at 8 pm Tuesday, July 22, 2014 at 8 pm

Commodore of soul **Lionel Richie** is performing *All The Hits All Night Long* this summer in an international tour. Hailing from Tuskegee, Alabama, he helped found the highly successful Motown group the Commodores in 1968. Known for hits like "Brick House" and "Three Times A Lady," the group received a Grammy Award for their song "Nightshift." Richie launched a solo career in 1982 with his eponymous album, featuring the No. 1 hit "Truly." Richie established his status as a music icon with the following year's *Can't Slow Down*, which spent more than three years on the *Billboard* Hot 200 and earned him his second and third Grammys. His latest release is the 2012 country-soul collaboration album *Tuskegee*, which features some of his greatest hits recorded as duets with country stars such as Blake Shelton and Willie Nelson. The album was certified platinum and became Richie's third No. 1 album.

Video: Lionel Richie—"Stuck on You"

Original member of the group Goodie Mob and Atlanta native, **CeeLo Green** is one of the most recognizable hip-hop artists of the decade. Throughout Green's extensive career he has performed many roles including singer, writer, and producer, winning five Grammys in various areas. Green teamed up with DJ Danger Mouse to form the R&B group Gnarls Barkley, best known for their multiplatinum hit "Crazy," which was ranked #1 on *Rolling Stone*'s Top 100 Songs of the Decade (2000-2009.) Green's solo career took off with the worldwide hit "Forget You," which received over two million views on YouTube in less than a week, and now has 74 million views. Green served as a judge on the singing competition reality show *The Voice* from 2011 to 2013, and his latest album, *CeeLo's Magic Moment*, came out in 2012.

Video: CeeLo Green – Medley at Billboard Music Awards 2011 (Live)

Bizet Carmen Wolf Trap Opera National Symphony Orchestra Grant Gershon, conductor The Washington Chorus, Julian Wachner, Music Director A Kay Shouse Great Performance Friday, July 25, 2014 at 8:15 pm

A spellbinding drama filled with lust, jealousy, and tragedy, *Carmen* is one of the world's most beloved and widely-performed operas. **Bizet**'s masterpiece features many of opera's most powerful and memorable arias, including "Habanera," "Seguidilla," and "Song of the Toreador." Resident Conductor of Los Angeles Opera **Grant Gershon** is returning to conduct the **National Symphony Orchestra**, and Wolf Trap alum **Tara Faircloth** will direct this new *Operascape* production. **The Washington Chorus** lends their Grammy Award-winning sound to the production under the musical direction of **Julian Wachner**. The main roles are played by **Filene Young Artists**, an elite group of young singers chosen through a highly selective audition process; this year's group represents the premier 2.4% of a record 1,082 applicants from around the world. Sung in French, the show will use Figaro Systems' new MobiTXT technology to transmit English supertitles directly to the audience's mobile devices. In addition, an onstage extra will don Google Glass, a highly advanced, wearable computer, to give patrons a firsthand look of what it's like to be on the Filene Center stage.

Sarah McLachlan

Saturday, July 26, 2014 at 8 pm

Pop-rock superstar **Sarah McLachlan** will sweep the Filene Center audience away with her most emotionally powerful ballads, songs AllMusic.com says "showcase her incredible range." The singer/songwriter has penned many worldwide hits, including "Building a Mystery" and "Angel," in addition to releasing eight studio albums, all certified platinum or gold. In 1999 she was inducted as an Officer of the Order of Canada for both her music career and organization of the Lilith Fair, a travelling music festival featuring only female-fronted acts. Over three summers of tours, the Fair raised more than \$10 million for women's charities. To date, McLachlan has won three Grammy Awards and eight Juno awards, the Canadian equivalent of the Grammys. Her most recent album, *Shine On*, was released May 6, 2014, and peaked at No. 1 in Canada and No. 4 in the United States.

Video: Sarah McLachlan – "Angel"

Darius Rucker Special Guest: Joel Crouse Sunday, July 27, 2014 at 7:30 pm

Don't miss successful cross-genre artist **Darius Rucker** at the Filene Center! Rucker started his career as the lead singer of rock band Hootie & the Blowfish, and skyrocketed to fame after the band's 1994 debut album, *Cracked Rear View*, was a runaway success selling more than 16 million copies. He racked

up his first Grammy Award with the group, for Best New Artist, before splitting off to pursue a solo career. Rucker first ventured alone with the 2001 R&B album *Back to Then*, before embarking on what he calls his "second career" in country music. To date, he has released three country albums, most recently 2013's *True Believers*, all of which have claimed the top spot on the country *Billboard* chart. This year Rucker became only the third African American act to win a Grammy in a country music category, taking home the trophy for Best Country Solo Performance for his cover of *Wagon Wheel* by Old Crow Medicine Show.

Video: Darius Rucker and Big & Rich – "Wagon Wheel" (Live)

Up-and-coming singer/songwriter **Joel Crouse** captivates country music fans with his attention-grabbing performances, opening for major stars such as Rucker, Taylor Swift, and the Goo Goo Dolls. Crouse burst onto the scene in 2011, opening for The Band Perry and Toby Keith, and released his debut single "If You Want Some" two years later. *Taste of Country* raves about the young crooner, saying he "sings with more confidence than 20 years provides most artists." His debut album *Even the River Runs* is slated to be released on August 19 of this year.

Video: Joel Crouse - "Why God Made Love Songs"

Tickets can be purchased online at <u>wolftrap.org</u> or by calling 1.877.WOLFTRAP. For more information, call Wolf Trap at 703.255.1900.

Wolf Trap is Metro accessible!

Our environmentally friendly Wolf Trap Express Bus travels from the West Falls Church Metro stop every 20 minutes starting two hours prior to show time. For details, please visit wolftrap.org/Plan_Your_Visit/Access_by_Metro.aspx.

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